

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 09551 091606Z

61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 L-02 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 SCEM-01

TRSE-00 SCI-03 PM-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /063 W

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R 091537Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1732

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 9551

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJ: PRELIMINARY STUDY FOR AN EVENTUAL US-VENEZUELAN
ENERGY AGREEMENT

REF: CARACAS 9456

1. I HAVE RECONSTITUTED THE EMBASSY'S "ENERGY TEAM" WITH A VIEW TO MAKING THE PRELIMINARY STUDIES WHICH MIGHT SUBSTANTIATE A LINE OF POLICY TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE UNITED STATES VIS-A-VIS VENEZUELA WHEN THE NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE MARCH 20. WE HAVE IN MIND A CONTINUATION OF PAST CONVERSATIONS LOOKING TOWARD A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGREEMENT.

2. IT WOULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO THE EMBASSY IF WE COULD HAVE A UP-TO-DATE READING ON INFORMATION AND POINTS OF VIEW CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. WE REALIZE THAT AT THIS EARLY STAGE, FOLLOWING UPON THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE, IT MAY BE TOO EARLY TO FORMULATE DEFINITIVE ANSWERS, BUT THERE SHOULD BE A GOOD DEAL OF FACTUAL MATERIAL WHICH SHOULD ENTER INTO OUR THINKING IF WE PREPARE PROPOSALS FOR AN ONWARD-LOOKING PETROLEUM POLICY GOVERNING THE ENERGY RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES.

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3. IN CONSEQUENCE, I PROPOSE, WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, TO

SEND PETROLEUM ATTACHE GEORGE OGG FOR A WEEK OR TEN DAYS TDY IN THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSULT PRIMARILY WITH OFFICE OF FUELS AND ENERGY AS TO THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PROBLEM AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN ACHIEVING A SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION WITH VENEZUELA. OGG WOULD CONFINE HIS CONVERSATIONS LARGELY TO THE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE, AT THIS STAGE, IN OUR JUDGMENT, IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO APPROACH EVERY DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY OF THE USG WHICH HAS AN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER.

4. OUR TIMETABLE WOULD BE DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER TO WORK UP A STUDY WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR A US-VENEZUELAN ENERGY AGREEMENT AND THEN PERHAPS EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR I MIGHT PRESENT THESE CONSIDERATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: ISSUANCE OF TRAVEL ORDERS FOR MR. OGG. MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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